

From: Araemo
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 2:41pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I have read through the proposed settlement, and even on my first read through I found several issues and loopholes, and while reading other people's views, they have pointed out more serious errors.

I feel, among other things, that a 'Windows-compatible' operating system market could do wonders for the PC industry. Unfortunately, the proposed settlement makes it more difficult, by making some practices illegal, such as using MSDN information to make a windows-compatible OS, and only requiring that some of the necessary APIs be documented for developers. Unfortunately, this is only the beginning of the problems... The proposed settlement also has no mention of Microsoft.net, or their tablet PC, windows CE, and pocket PC products. There is also no mention of microsoft's liscensing practices with large users, such as corporations, schools, and government agencies, unfortunately I do not know enough about this to site any particular problems, but I'm sure many companies would be able to explain the problem in great detail. A good essay siting many of the problems with the settlement is available at <http://www.kegel.com/remedy/remedy2.html>

Please reconsider the settlement, it is too specific on what products are to be restricted... such as a 'MS internet explorer 7.0.0' would be completely free to change APIs such that no competing products could interact with IE or windows in the same way... without microsoft being required to publish the API changes.

Thank you for reading this,
Nathan O'Meara

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